

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 05341 111850 Z

73

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-09 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSR-01 /072 W
----- 038436

R 111632 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8693

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 5341

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, UR, CA

SUBJ: NEW SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO CANADA

1. CANADIAN EMBOFF HAS INFORMED EMBASSY IN STRICTEST CONFIDENCE THAT CANADIANS HAVE GRANTED AGREEMENT TO ALEKSANDR NIKOLAYEVICH YAKOVLEV AS NEW SOVIET AMBASSADOR IN OTTAWA. YAKOVLEV'S LAST POSITION WAS FIRST DEPUTY CHIEF OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE'S PROPAGANDA SECTION, JOB HE HELD SINCE 1966.

2. NEW APPOINTMENT APPEARS TO BE DEMOTION FOR YAKOVLEV WHO HAS BEEN DE FACTO HEAD OF PROPAGANDA SECTION FOR AT LEAST TWO YEARS IN ABSENCE OF CHIEF OF SECTION. HOWEVER, REASONS FOR MOVE REMAIN UNCLEAR. SOME OBSERVERS SPECULATE THAT YAKOVLEV FELL INTO HARD TIMES AS RESULT FALLOUT FROM REPORTEDLY DEFINITIVE ARTICLE ON SOVIET LITERATURE ENTITLED " AGAINST ANTI- HISTORICISM" WHICH HE AUTHORED FOR NOVEMBER 15, 1972 ISSUE OF " LITERATURNYAA BAZETA." SOME REPORT HEARING RUMORS THT ARTICLE LED TO INTENSIVE DEBATE WITHIN LITERARY CIRCLES, AND IT INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT SO- CALLED VILLAGE WRITERS, WHOM YAKOVLEV CRITICIZED IN HIS ARTICLE, WERE PRAISED PUBLICLY IN NEWSPAPER ARTICLE.

3. OTHERS ARGUE THAT YAKOVLEV LOST OUT IN BEHIND- THE- SCENE MANEUVERING WITHIN THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE APPARATUS. IT CLEARLY UNUSUAL THAT POST AS IMPORTANT AS CHIEF OF CC PROPAGANDA SECTION
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 05341 111850 Z

WOULD REMAIN VACANT FOR OVER TWO YEARS. ONE SOURCE TOLD EMBOFF ABOUT TWO MONTHS AGO THAT BECAUSE OF DIFFERENCES WITHIN POLITBURO, IT IMPOSSIBLE TO AGREE ON NEW APPOINTEE FOR THIS VACANCY. NOVISTI CORRESPONDENT WAS ASKED MAY 9 BOTH ABOUT YAKOVLEV' S RUMORED NEW APPOINTMENT AND REASONS FOR FAILURE TO REPLACE PROPAGANDA SECTION CHIEF. IN ADDITION TO CONFIRMING CANADIAN APPOINTMENT, HE SPECULATED THAT FAILURE TO REPLACE SECTION CHIEF PERHAPS REFLECTED INTERNAL DEBATE OVER FOREIGN POLICY WITHIN POLIGBURO, AND EXPRESSED VIEW THAT NEW APPOINTMENTS WOULD BE MADE HHORTLY-- IMPLYING THAT CHANGES IN POLITBURO AND STRENGTHENING OF BREZHNEV' S FOREIGN POLICY COURSE MAY HAVE BROKEN LOGJAM TASS CORRESPONDENT ASKED SAME QUESTIONS MAY 10 ALSO EXPRESSED VIEW THAT DECISION ON NEW CHIEF WOULD BE FORTHCOMING SHORTLY, INDICATING THAT IN MEANTIME SECTION HAS BEEN UNDER OVERALL DIERCTION OF CANDIDATE POLITBURO MEMBER DEMICHEV. YAKOVLEV' S DEPARTURE COULD PAVE WAY FOR APPOINTMENT OF NEW PROPAGANDA CHIEF WHO WOULD BE GIVEN OPPORTUNITY OF CHOOSING OWN PRINCIPAL DEPUTY.

4. ACCORING TO LIMITED BIO INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO EMBASSY, YAKOVLEV IS ABOUT 49 YEARS OLD. IN 1959 YAKOVLEV WAS ENROLLED AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY AS PART OF US- USSR CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM DESCRIBING HIS EXPERIENCE FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES, HE IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID " THIS HAS BEEN BRILLIANT EXAMPLE OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION. . . . NOW I KNOW THAT AMERICAN AND SOVIET PEOPLE CAN LIVE TOGETHER PEACEFULLY." DUBS

CONFIDENTIAL
NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973MOSCOW05341
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS DUBS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730540/aaaaiqrp.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27-Sep-2001 by smithrj>; APPROVED <30-Nov-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 980122
Subject: NEW SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO CANADA
TAGS: PINT, CA, UR, PFOR, PINT
To: EUR
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005